ARVIND NETAM): (a) This Ministry has not provided financial assistance for Poultry development projects to State Government during 1992-5)3, 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Liberalisation in Agriculture

3260. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether liberalised economy which is a major plank of reforms introduced by Government has also been introduced to the agriculture related commodities for processing:

(b) what is the justification of debarring the fanners from processing their sugarcane for sugar:

(c) whether Government will allow farmers to process their sugarcane without any licence; and

(d) if so, by when; and if not, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Government have taken various steps to promote food processing industries, which inter-alia include declaration of mosl food processing industries as high priority, delicensing of all good processing industries, excepting for distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for Small Scale Sector, automatic approval of Foreign Equity upto 51% in high priority areas and technology agreements, permitting Foreign / Non-Resident Indian investments, providing fiscal reliefs, etc.

(b) to (d) In so far as processing of sugarcane is concerned, it is undertaken by the sugar factories for manufacture of vaccum pan sugar. However, sugar factories have to take a licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act. 1951 for setting up a sugar factory. As regards processing of cane for gur and khandsari, these are controlled by various State Governments / Union Territories under their own orders.

Production of Jute in Orissa

3261. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of jute in Orissa during the last three years, year- wise;

(b) the steps taken to increase the production of jute in that State;

(c) the Schemes drawn up therefor;

(d) the funds allocated to Orissa therefor; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The total jute production during the last three years is given below:

Year	Production in '000 bales of 180 Kg. each.
1991-92	380.8
1992-93	272.9
1993-94	184.7

(b) and (c) Government of India have launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Special Jute Development Programme in important jute growing States including Orissa to increase the production and improve the quality of jute fibres. Under the Scheme financial assistance is provided for distribution of quality seeds, farm implements, essential nutrients and fungal culture. Financial assistance is also provided for foliar spraying, excavation of kutcha / pucca retting tanks and organising technology demonstration and farmers training.

(d) and (e) Government of India have allocated / sanctioned funds to Orissa State during the last three years for the implementation of various programmes under the scheme as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount allocated / sanctioned by Govt, of India
1992-93	26.101
1993-94	36.695
1994-95	37.295